

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 810

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ben Lones Greene of Maryville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ben Lones Greene; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Ben Lones Greene was born in Sneedville on September 2, 1922, to John and Maxie Greene; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene began playing football at Rogersville High School, which led to his football career at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, Ben Greene joined the Navy and attained the rank of Petty Officer Second Class in the Naval Construction Battalion (SeaBees); he was stationed in the South Pacific from 1942 to 1943 before he was honorably discharged in 1945; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the Navy, Ben Greene returned to East Tennessee State University to finish his education, and it was there that he met his future wife, Norma-Jeanne Hendry; the two married in 1946 and had three children together, Judi, Becky, and Benny; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene taught and coached football at Maryville High School, where he had a positive impact on the students and players; and

WHEREAS, after leaving Maryville High School in 1953, Ben Greene began working for Lambert Brothers Inc./Ashland Oil/Harrison Construction; he enjoyed a flourishing career in the crushed stone industry and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work until his retirement in 1973; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Ben Greene joined his son-in-law at Cherokee Lumber Company and then became a partner in Tool Factory Outlets, Inc., in 1994; and

WHEREAS, after the death of his wife, Jeanne, who was fondly known as "Mama Jean," in 1996, Ben Greene began going on mission trips with Reverend Jerry Russell and other members of Fairview United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, on a mission trip to Australia in 1997, Mr. Greene met Eleanor Talley, whom he married in a small church in the Pital community of Costa Rica, a church that they had helped to rebuild; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene continued going on mission trips into his early 90s, and his love for Eleanor and their families and the good he could do through mission work carried him through the last quarter century of his life; and

WHEREAS, Ben Greene was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived and sadly missed by his wife, Eleanor Greene; his daughters, Judi Greene Falco (Paul) and Rebecca Swann (Joe); his stepsons, Mark Talley (Penny), David Talley (Jennifer), and John Talley (Linda); his grandchildren, Anthony Ellis (Angela), William Swann (Emily), Ben Swann (Brittney), John Falco (Kristi), Rachel Browder (Eddie), Landon Talley (Aly), Jamie Talley (Madison), Miranda Thomas (Will), Katie Grider (Michael), Micah Talley (Rachel), Josie Garcia (Carmen), Emma Talley, Brooks Talley, Ellie Talley, Nick Talley, and Evie Talley; his great-grandchildren, Bryce Carr, Alexander Ellis, Jordis Lonas, Thaxton Falco, Dean Falco, Bret Browder, Blaize Browder, Brooks Browder, Preston Swann, Lones Swann, Dagny Swann, Blu Gomez, Elliott Gomez, Tuck Grider, Jazmine Garcia, Randon Garcia, Jenny Garcia, Sandra Garcia, and Max Garcia; and his great-great-grandchildren, Braylynn Carr, Kennedy Carr, West Browder, Masie Browder, and Taylah Browder; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, John and Maxie Greene; his sisters, Kathleen Beal and Betty Gladson; his wife, Jeanne Hendry Greene; his son, Ben L. Greene, Jr.; and his great-grandson, Clark R. Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Ben Greene exemplified grit, capability, humility, and care to everyone who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ben Lones Greene, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Greene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.